IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

ESCH et al.   Group Art Unit: 1754

Appln. No.: 08/870,591   Examiner: Hendrickson

Filed: June 6, 1997

FOR: PRECIPITATED SILICAS

*   *   *   *   *

January 27, 2000

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
UNDER 37 CFR §1.136(b) and § 1.193(b)(1)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
  and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests a one month extension of time for filing the Reply Brief in

the above-referenced application. The Examiner's Answer was dated December 3, 1999, and

the due date for filing a Reply Brief is February 3, 2000. It is respectfully requested that the

due date be extended until March 3, 2000, which is believed to be a reasonable extension

period in view of the circumstances set forth below.

This request is made in order to allow additional time for Applicant to consider the

Examiner's Answer and to consult with the inventors regarding a response to the Examiner's

points of argument. It is noted that Applicant is located overseas, which as a matter of course

delayed Applicant's receipt of the Examiner's Answer. Furthermore, the year-end holidays

the time period for reply, which further delayed communication

with the inventors and others needed to prepare the response. Applicant has therefore not

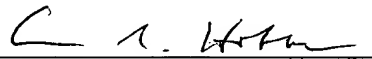been able to fully determine the merits of such a Reply Brief and only a reasonable extended

time is requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the present circumstances warrant a one month extension of time for filing a Reply Brief, and it is respectfully requested that the extension be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

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